5/11/70

Dear Mary,

Glad to get your letter of the 7th and the enclosed clips. One, with a headline saying the TOHD future was hazy, also said it was continued from page 27, but there was no p. 27. Not important, unless it is just laying around. I am wondering about trying to approach Mayhew to see if he could be interested in my work.

Your reaction to my intrusion into your personal affairs pleases me no ends for I did it with misgivings, it being none of my business. But I do consider such things the obligation if not the right of friends. It may mean nothing in the long run, but maybe it can or will. Let us hope so. The report it to a layman encouraging, but my slight knowledge of such things reminds me of icebergs and what is visible.

You misread my meaning if you took it to indicate any shortcomings when I spoke of David. You understood what I was saying, so I made that clearm, but I intended no subtle chiding at all. On that point, though, and we want no publicity on it, so tell Arch but don't spread it, we now have the capitulation of DJ in hand, in writing, and I'll test it in the a.m. when I appear to go over the documents. You'll get a copy, of the letter, that it. In this area we are making progress. Now I wish I had a bright young law student or lawyer who could spend the summer here helping prepare just such things. I am close to filing more suits than I can recall. There could no not fewer than 50 if I were so minded. Next is on the panel reports. I can do that immediately.

I have not seen Newman's book. He blocked publication of WHITEWASH in 1965 when an employee of a publisher who had decided to do it sought his opinion on accuracy of content. He had been unable to get it published for years. The mail came when Paul had just gotten here. We and I were talking while Lil read it. When she came to your line, "However, I don't think he knows the Archives exists", she laughed, read it to us, and we also enjoyed it.

If xeroxing Sprague's article will cost you anything, hold off until we see if we, Cutler or anyone else sends it. If it doesn't, I'd like to read it soon. I got a phone call from a radio station about it after reading the (terrifying) story. I was able to evade the story and just say how important it is that Dick collected all those pictures. Berkeley may send me a copy. We have had a slight correspondence. The attention this and Skolnick got reminds me again of the standards of our society, where the functioning plumbing is of no interest but the overflowed toilet is news. This kind of story, with at least four assassins, "about"(!) six confessions (ever hear of them?) and 50 conspirators on the spot, help us like the plague.

I filed a suit against Skolnick by mail. Neither he nor any of the media have responded in any way. They have an instinctive feeling for what helps and what hurts us and, I think, much of Chicago lives in fear of what he can do to them, if only in lawyer's fees defending his spurious suits. One station told me this. Meanwhile, having tested blood and learned how cheaply it can be had, he is after CBS on the LBJ suppression (which got no press), and that I welcome.

Best to you all,